AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 to 25. (Canceled)

26.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, said computer readable program code configured to:

obtain a first business process data from at least one first trading participant, said first business process data comprising a set of transaction messages having a first data format in accordance with a first ~~standard~~ protocol for conducting business transactions used by said at least one first trading participant;

process said first business process data at a process management platform accessible via an interconnection fabric, wherein said process management platform is configured to manage the flow of said transaction messages and monitor said transaction messages, wherein said process management platform is configured to automatically determine ~~a second~~ at least one of a plurality of second trading participants to satisfy said first business process data;

identify a second protocol for conducting said business transactions used by said at least one of a plurality of second trading participants;

generate a second business process data from said first business process data, the second business process data comprising a set of transaction messages

having a ~~using a second~~ data format in accordance with <u>said identified</u> [[a]]

second ~~standard~~ protocol ~~for conducting said business transactions with said~~

~~second one of said plurality of trading participants~~; and

transmit said second business process data from said process management

platform to said ~~second~~ <u>at least</u> one of said plurality of <u>second</u> trading

participants<u>, such that said first and second trading participants conduct said</u>

<u>business transactions in accordance with their respective protocols for</u>

<u>conducting business transactions</u>.

27.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 26

wherein said computer readable program code configured to obtain said <u>first</u>

business process data executes at a process gateway.

28.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim <u>27</u> ~~26~~

wherein said process gateway interfaces with at least one legacy system ~~at~~ <u>of one</u>

<u>or both of</u> said at least one first trading participant and said <u>at least</u> ~~second~~ one of

said plurality of <u>second</u> trading participants[[ ]].

29.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 26

wherein said process management platform broadcasts said first business

process data to said plurality of <u>second</u> trading participants.

30.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 26

further comprising:

computer readable program code configured to modify said first business

process data to conform said first business process data to a uniform format.

31.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 26

wherein said processing further comprises:

archiving said first business process data in a storage medium.

32.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 31

further comprising:

computer readable program code configured to provide said archived first

business process data to an entity for non-repudiation purposes.

33.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 26

wherein said first business process data comprises at least one partner interface

process.

34.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 26

wherein said first business process data comprises technical information.

35.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 26 wherein said first business process data comprises item acquisition data.

36.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 26 wherein said first business process data comprises service acquisition data.

37.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 26 wherein said at least one first trading participant comprises an entity utilizing said first business process data.

38.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 37 wherein said entity comprises a purchaser.

39.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 37 wherein said entity comprises a supplier.

40.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 37 wherein said entity comprises a distributor.

41.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 37 wherein said entity comprises a manufacturer.

42.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 37 wherein said process management platform comprises a plurality of distributed systems.

43.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 37 wherein said process management platform comprises a business process interface associated with said at least one first trading participant and said at least one of a plurality of second interface participants.

44.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 37 further comprising:

computer readable program code configured to provide said at least one first trading participant and said at least one of a plurality of second trading participants access to a business process interface.

45.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 44 wherein said business process interface is provided via a web browser.

46.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 44 wherein said business process interface facilitates the transmission of data comprising at least a portion of said business process data.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 44

wherein said business process interface facilitates the formatting of data

comprising at least a portion of said business process data.

48. (Canceled)

49. (Canceled)

50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code for

managing a plurality of business processes, said computer readable program

code configured to:

obtain a plurality of business processes from a plurality of first

entities wherein said plurality of business processes comprises a sequence

of messages linked by a predefined workflow and exchanged over a

predefined period of time;

manage said plurality of business processes at a process

management platform;

forward[[ing]] said plurality of business processes from said

process management platform to at least one of a plurality of second

entities automatically determined to be configured to fulfill said plurality

of business processes.

52.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 51

wherein said computer readable code configured to manage said plurality of

business processes at said process management platform further comprises

computer readable program code configured to:

format each of said plurality of business processes to conform to a

predefined format when said plurality of business processes does not conform to

said predefined format;

archive said plurality of business process.

53. to 60. (Canceled)

61.   (New) The computer program product of claim 26, wherein said

computer program code configured to identify said second protocol for

conducting business transactions used by said at least one of a plurality of

second trading participants further comprises computer program code

configured to determine whether said second protocol for conducting business

transactions used by said at least one of a plurality of second trading participants

is other than said first protocol for conducting business transactions used by said

at least one first trading participant.

62.   (New) The computer program product of claim 61, wherein said first

protocol for conducting business transactions used by said at least one first

trading participant is other than said second protocol for conducting business

transactions used by said at least one of a plurality of second trading

participants.

63.   (New) The computer program product of claim 61, wherein said first

protocol for conducting business transactions used by said at least one first

trading participant is said second protocol for conducting business transactions

used by said at least one of a plurality of second trading participants.